

Welcome to the 129TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY <i>of the State of Ohio</i>				
Search for Legislative Information	Laws, Acts, and Legislation	The Ohio House of Representatives	The Ohio Senate	Ohio's Legislative Agencies
Legislative Schedules	Session Video	Executive & Judicial Branches	About Ohio's State Government	Education Topics and Legislative Reports

[Return to Laws Page](#)

HB 605

As Introduced

[View Full Text with Line Numbers](#)

[\(pdf format\)](#)

[\(html format\)](#)

[View Publications Associated with this Bill](#)

[Bill Analyses](#)

[Synopsis of Committee Amendments](#)

[Conference Committee Synopsis](#)

[Fiscal Notes](#)

[Status Report of Legislation](#)

[Votes](#)

[Bill Sponsors](#)

[REPRESENTATIVES: Huffman Blessing](#)

[Other Versions of Bill and Associated Reports](#)

[HELP - Field Definitions for this Page](#)

The online versions of legislation provided on this website are not official. Enrolled bills are the final version passed by the Ohio General Assembly and presented to the Governor for signature. The official version of acts signed by the Governor are available from the Secretary of State's Office in the Continental Plaza, 180 East Broad St., Columbus.

As Introduced

129th General Assembly Regular Session 2011-2012

H. B. No. 605

MATT
Representative Huffman

Cosponsor: Representative Blessing

LOU

CWCWATTI

A BILL

To amend sections 109.54, 2915.01, 2915.02, and 3770.03 of the Revised Code to permit the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation to investigate criminal activity involving the operation of a scheme of chance under the Gambling Law, to require the State Lottery Commission to adopt rules describing certain prohibited schemes of chance that use an electronic device to reveal the results, and to make other changes related to schemes of chance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 109.54, 2915.01, 2915.02, and 3770.03 of the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 109.54. (A) The bureau of criminal identification and investigation may investigate any criminal activity in this state that is of statewide or intercounty concern when requested by local authorities and may aid federal authorities, when requested, in their investigation of any criminal activity in this state. The bureau may investigate any criminal activity in this state related to the conduct of elections when requested by the secretary of state. The bureau may investigate any criminal activity in this state involving drug abuse or illegal drug distribution prohibited under Chapter 3719. or 4729. of the Revised Code or the operation of a scheme of chance under Chapter 2915. of the Revised Code. The superintendent and any agent of the bureau may participate, as the director of an organized crime task force established under section 177.02 of the Revised Code or as a member of the investigatory staff of a task force established under that section, in an investigation of organized criminal activity anywhere within this state under sections 177.01 to 177.03 of the Revised Code.

(B) The bureau may provide any trained investigative personnel and specialized equipment that are requested by any sheriff or chief of police, by the authorized designee of any sheriff or chief of police, or by any other authorized law enforcement officer to aid and assist the officer in the investigation and solution of any crime or the control of any criminal activity occurring within the officer's jurisdiction. This assistance shall be furnished by the bureau without disturbing or impairing any of the existing law enforcement authority or the prerogatives of local law enforcement authorities or officers. Investigators provided pursuant to this section, or engaged in an investigation pursuant to section 109.83 of the Revised Code, may go armed in the same manner as sheriffs and regularly appointed police officers under section 2923.12 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) The bureau shall obtain recording equipment that can be used to record depositions of the type described in division (A) of section 2152.81 and division (A) of section 2945.481 of the Revised Code, or testimony of the type described in division (D) of section 2152.81 and division (D) of section 2945.481 or in division (C) of section 2937.11 of the Revised Code, shall obtain closed circuit equipment that can be used to televise testimony of the type described in division (C) of section 2152.81 and division (C) of section 2945.481 or in division (B) of section 2937.11 of the Revised Code, and shall provide the equipment, upon request, to any court for use in recording any deposition or testimony of one of those types or in televising the testimony in accordance with the applicable division.

(2) The bureau shall obtain the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of persons who are

MATT

HUMAN BILL: 605

59 HOUSE
NEED 50 TO PASS

WEEK OF DEC 3RD

7Star Café		
Big Hit Elyria Café	Duplicate	
Big Hit Sweeps Café	Greg Brown	
Blue Moon Café		
Broad Internet Café		
Buckeye I Café	Maxine Carrel	
Buckeye II Café	Nij Patel	
Calypso Café		
Cash Cow Café	Mike Harris	
Cash Cow II Café		
Cash Island Café		
Cyber City I Café		
Cyber City II Café		
Cyber Connection Café		
Cyber Hotspot Café		
Cyber Island Café		
Cyber Palace Café		
Cyber Playground Café	Ron Skowronski	
Cyber Space II Café		
Cyber Space Sweeps Café	Duplicate	
Cyber Stakes Café		
Cyber Time Café		
Cyber Time Eastlake Café	Duplicate	
Cyber World Café		
Cyberiffic Café		
Dusk Till Dawn Café	Jen Buchannan	
Emerald Isle Café	No Attendees	
Game On Café	Aaron Salomon	
Global Café		
Gold Rush Café		
Gold Star Café		
Hilltop Sweeps Café	Duplicate	
ICS of Ohio Café	Randy Gibson	Audrey Gibson
Infinity II Westlake Café	Rob Rogers	
Infinity Westlake Café		
Internet Escape Café		
Internet Island Café	Gary Tritsarolis	
Internet Palace Café		
Internet Paradise Café	Lesha Strickho	
Island Oasis Café		
JPF1 Café		
JPF2 Café		
Lady Luck Café		
Lucky Buckeye Café		
Lucky Hook Café	2 others	Jackie Malone
Lucky Shores Café	Steve Swares	David Krone
Lucky Sweepstakes Café	Kim Strader	Mike Allen
Massillon Café		
Nova Sweeps Café		
PIC Café	Missy Bragg	Chris Kade
Plaza Café	Tammy Mahra	

er Play Café		
lace Café		
azzles Café		
Safe Haven Café		
Stay Connected I Café	Steve LoDico	
Stay Connected II Café	Duplicate	
Super Sweeps I Café		
Surf Shop Café		
Surfs Up Café		
Treasure Island Café		
Triple 7 Café		
Winners Island Café	Tony Bragg	

Attachments: VS2_Statehouse_Committee_Roster.xls (51K), VS2_one_pager.doc.docx (61K), Sweepstakes_Customer_Letter_HB_195.docx (27K), Sweepstakes_Employee_Letter_HB_195.docx (34K), Sweepstakes_Owner_Letter_on_HB_195.docx (33K)

We need to collect the fundraising checks as soon as we can. The political folks are hoping we have checks at the September 12 event.

We need to develop a good crowd of 10 café owners to participate in a reception for the House Republicans at 4:30pm and a dinner with the Senate Republicans at 6pm on September 12.

We wanted to invite you to attend two Statehouse events as our guests on September 12 in Columbus at the Athletic Club of Columbus. At 4:30pm on September 12, there will be a small reception with the leadership of the Ohio House Republicans followed by a separate dinner at 6:00pm with the leadership of the Ohio Senate Republicans. The purpose of these receptions is to discuss the importance of the sweepstakes industry in Ohio and to advocate for sound regulation of our industry that will end the current legal harassment. We hope you can attend.

THIS IS A SUIT AND THE TYPE OF EVENT OR DRESS IMPORTANT

3-4 ADV. EDUCATION
 ✓ ~~WILLIAM STUBBS~~ SENT
 ✓ ROB ROGERS SENT
 ✓ EVAN BROWN REPLY
 ✓ ~~LEIGH STUBBS~~ SENT
 ✓ ~~STUBBS~~ SENT
 ✓ ~~DEAN'S WORK~~ SENT
 ✓ LEADERSHIP
 ✓ HENRY STUBBS COMING

Political Fundraising

As an industry under attack by politicians, we cannot ignore the political process. To do so would spell the death of our industry. Our opponents are making contributions to candidates that support their

<http://mail.aol.com/36962-112/aol-6/en-us/mail/PrintMessage.aspx>

9/6/2012

Cafe Owner Follow Up

Page 2 of 2

views and we need to do the same. I am asking each café owner to write four personal checks to the following organizations that can support pro-business candidates:

\$2000- Ohio Senate Republican Campaign Committee;

\$500- Ohio Senate Democratic Campaign Committee;

\$500- Ohio House Democratic Campaign Committee; and

\$2000- Ohio House Republican Organizational Campaign Committee.

Please forward these checks to my office by Monday, September 11, 2012. We are hosting an important event on September 12 and need to have the contributions for this gathering.

PHONE CALL

FOR	M	DATE	9/10	TIME	9	A.M. P.M.
M.	Mark STRAUSS (1)					
OF	LUCKY SHORES ENT.					
PHONE	330-348-6051		CELL			
MESSAGE	MIS LAW @ SBC GLOBAL. NE					
<div>EDWARD BROWN KATE BROWN STEVE BROWN FOR ROGER'S WIFE TERRY LUNA / WIFE ALBERT ROBERTS / WIFE TAMARA / WIFE TAMARA / WIFE TAMARA / WIFE</div>						
<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TELEPHONED <input type="checkbox"/> RETURNED YOUR CALL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PLEASE CALL <input type="checkbox"/> WILL CALL AGAIN <input type="checkbox"/> CAME TO SEE YOU <input type="checkbox"/> WANTS TO SEE YOU</div>						

NAME	EMAIL	WANTS GRASSROOTS
JAMES BRISSEN	jamesbrissen@yahoo.com	YES
JACKIE MALON	AppleJack2@Insight.cc.com	yes
MARGUERITE CARRE	CARRELO8@yahoo.com	Yes
JIM DELFRERO	JIM DELFRERO@HOTMAIL.COM	YES
MARC STRAUSS	mislaw@sbcglobal.net	Yes
BILL MANOS	Willys457@aol.com	Yes
George Manos	Luckybuckeye777@yahoo.com	U
Kim Strader	KSTRADER@MICEXAM.COM	yes
Teery Fiala	TRFiala@wowway.com	yes
Randy Gibson	ICSOhio@gmail.com	yes

be able to attend. Again, we apologize for the short notice, but we are getting info to you as soon as we are able to identify, discuss and come up with what we feel is the appropriate strategy for the sweepstakes cafe industry.

"Enemies of sweepstakes cafes are planning on closing the industry next week by quickly passing House Bill 605. House Bill 605 would ban sweepstakes cafes. PLEASE PLAN ON COMING TO COLUMBUS ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4th AT NOON IN ROOM 122 OF THE STATEHOUSE TO TELL THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE OF YOUR OPPOSITION TO HB 605. Plan to spend the night in Columbus and attend another hearing of the House Judiciary Committee Hearing on Wednesday morning at 9am. Please contact David Robinson, lobbyist for VS2 Ohio, at drobinson@montrosegroupllc.com or 614 738 2109, if you are able to come to Columbus next week to stop HB 605. The existence of your business is on the line."

We recommend this action for cafe owners and employees at this time. If the bill advances to the Senate floor, we would then recommend players protest as well. There are two quick hearings and a vote scheduled and it appears they are going to try and ram this bill through in haste since Rep Magg couldn't get 195 out of committee last week.

Please confirm that you will or will not be able to attend so we can let Dave Robinson know what kind of turn out there will be.

Regards, Mike Koty
VS2 WWC, LLC
732-751-1515
www.vs2wwc.com

CHAD/
ASHLEY: DTD

(29)

TIM SURGEN: MASS RD DRET
+ 6 EMPLOYEES

AUDREY COLE: CYBER ISLAND

LESHA/LANA: INTERNET PARADISE

BUCKETE II: 3 EMPLOYEES NANCY CHU

BUCKETE I: MARVIN CARREL

ICS OHIO: RANDY/AUDREY GIBSON

JIMMY VENTURA: INTERNET PARADISE

12 OWNERS

~~OWNERS~~

8 MANAGER

30 EMPLOYEES

BBB MOISE
RANDY/AUDREY ICS OHIO
TAMMY PUAH/OT TOW
SHAWY BLUE
NANCY/MARVIN +1 BUCKETE
MISSY DRESC BROWN
JIM V. I. PACE
MICHAEL
GEORGE HILL B. H. HILL
JIMMY POTTS
LAW AS SP

MIKE

AUDRY @
CYBER ISLAND

330-606-5793

AUDREYCOLESI @ MAX.COM

House member	Phone (614)	Notes	Pong Locations in District
Andrew Brenner (R-Powell)	644-6711	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee	None
Armond Budish (D-Beachwood)	466-5441	Minority Leader	
Barbara Sears (R-Sylvania)	466-1731	Majority Floor Leader	Bedford, Cleveland, North Randall
Cheryl Grossman (R-Grove City)	466-9690	Majority Whip	Toledo
Debbie Phillips (D-Albany)	466-2158	Assistant Minority Whip	Columbus
Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville)	466-8147	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee	None
Jack Cera (D-Bellaire)	466-3735	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee	Bellefontaine, Marysville
Jim Buchy (R-Greenville)	466-6344	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee (Vice Chair), Assistant Majority Whip, and Cosponsor of HB 7	None
John Adams (R-Sidney)	466-1507	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee and Assistant Majority Floor Leader	
Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent)	466-2004	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee	Sydney, Urbana
Louis Blessing, III (R-Cincinnati)	466-9091	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee	None
Matt Huffman (R-Lima)	466-9624	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee, Speaker Pro Tempore and Sponsor of HB 7	None
Matt Szollosi (D-Oregon)	466-1418	Assistant Minority Leader	Toledo, Oregon
Mike Curtin (D-Columbus)	644-6005	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee	Columbus
Mike Dovilla (R-Berea)	466-4895	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee (Chairman)	Cleveland
Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek)	644-6020	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee	None
Ron Gerberry (D-Austintown Twp.)	466-6107	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee (Ranking Member)	Austintown, Boardman, Brook Park, Youngstown
Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo)	644-6017	Member of Policy and Legislative Oversight Committee	Toledo

Tracy Heard (D-Columbus)	466-8010	Minority Whip	Columbus
William Batchelder (R-Medina)	466-8140	Speaker of the House and Cosponsor of HB 7	Brunswick, Medina

From: Robert Rogers <timewarpbar@gmail.com>

To: pandegames <pandegames@aol.com>; Mike Koty <pandemike@aol.com>; Joe Rice <info@josephdrice.com>; Luther L. Liggett, Jr. <liggett@lnlattorneys.com>; David Robinson <d Robinson@montrosegroupllc.com>; Ralph Rosenberger <ralphrosenberger@hotmail.com>; Danny Rogers <arog80@yahoo.com>; Roy Fankhauser <roy@reelsweeps.com>; Chase Brooks <chaselivlife@gmail.com>

Subject: Fwd: Co-Sponsor Request: Regulation of Sweepstakes Gaming

Date: Fri, Mar 1, 2013 9:03 am

Attachments: image001.gif (14K), Sweepstakes_Co-sponsor.doc (43K)

Lets get to work get people on board

Sincerely,

Robbie Rogers

[Timewarpbar.com](mailto:timewarpbar.com)

Infinityinternetcafe.com

Clevelandatm.com

Infinity Internet Cafe 1 Canterbury Plaza

Infinity Internet Cafe 2 Savannah Commons

Infinity Internet Cafe 3 Cherandon Plaza North Olmsted

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Maag, Ron" <Ron.Maag@ohiohouse.gov>

Date: March 1, 2013, 8:01:43 AM EST

To: "timewarpbar@gmail.com" <timewarpbar@gmail.com>

Subject: Fwd: Co-Sponsor Request: Regulation of Sweepstakes Gaming

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Myers, Marisa" <Marisa.Myers@ohiohouse.gov>

Date: February 28, 2013, 1:41:35 PM EST

To: House_All <House_All@ad.state.oh.us>

Subject: Co-Sponsor Request: Regulation of Sweepstakes Gaming

Representative Ron Maag

62nd House District

Representative Matt Lundy

55th House District

MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members

From: Representatives Ron Maag and Matt Lundy

Date: February 28, 2013

Re: Co-Sponsor Request: Regulation of Sweepstakes Gaming

Representative Lundy and I will soon be reintroducing a modified version of House Bill 195 of the 129th General Assembly, legislation that will address the needs of Ohio communities through responsible regulation of sweepstakes. To support business in Ohio, these games should be regulated rather than banned.

The intention of this proposal is to allow Ohioans to engage in legal gaming activities, but to regulate these activities so that all parties are protected. To clarify the intention of this proposed legislation, here are the highlights:

- Allows municipalities and townships to enact local ordinances or resolutions banning sweepstakes cafes in their jurisdiction and subjects sweepstakes cafes to local zoning regulations;
- To eliminate illegal forms of gaming in Ohio, requires sweepstake software suppliers to submit independent third party lab analysis to state regulators verifying games are true sweepstakes (not slot machines or other illegal forms of gaming);
- Requires strict criminal background checks for software vendors, store owners, and key employees;
- Prohibits the sale of alcohol at sweepstakes cafes;
- To ensure consumer protection, requires operators to conspicuously disclose odds of winning sweepstakes, terminal devices to display notice of predetermined nature of sweepstakes entries, operators to verify sweepstakes prizes have been awarded though timely disclosure of winners names and addresses to regulators, operators to post a surety bond ensuring sweepstakes prizes will be awarded, and specifies that sweepstakes entries are provided through the purchase of a tangible product;
- Provides townships and municipalities with annual local licensing fees of \$250 per terminal;
- Subjects tangible products (non-food) to state sales tax, which will provide the State of Ohio with 5.5 percent gross revenue receipts with counties receiving their local add-on up to 2.25 percent;

- Requires an annual sweepstakes gaming device vendor fee of \$100,000 and a licensure fee between \$5,000 and \$30,000 annually per store depending on the number of terminals;
- Requires the Attorney General to promulgate rules to allow veterans, fraternal, and other charities to operate sweepstakes terminals at their social clubs and exempts charitable social clubs from the alcohol prohibition.

If you have any questions or concerns, or wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Marisa Myers in my office at 614-644-6023 or Marisa.Myers@ohiohouse.gov or Alex Homan in Representative Lundy's office at 614-644-5076 or Alex.Homan@ohiohouse.gov. **The deadline for co-sponsoring this legislation is Thursday, March 7, 2013.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Marisa Myers

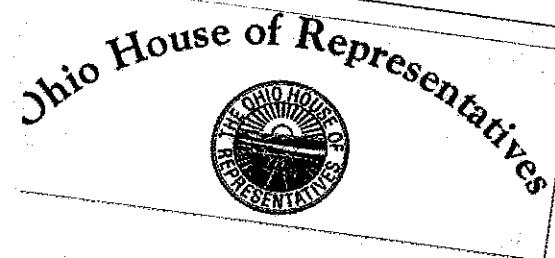
Legislative Aide

Representative Ron Maag

District 62

614-644-6023

1 Attached Images



From: Robert Rogers <timewarpbar@gmail.com>
To: Ralph Rosenberger <ralphrosenberger@hotmail.com>; pandegames <pandegames@aol.com>; Mike Koty <pandemike@aol.com>; trfiala <trfiala@wowway.com>; Luther L. Liggett, Jr. <lliggett@lnlattorneys.com>; Joe Rice <info@josephdrice.com>; David Robinson <d Robinson@montrosegroupllc.com>; Chase Brooks <chaselivelife@gmail.com>; Roy Fankhauser <roy@reelsweeps.com>
Subject: Fwd: HB7 Meeting
Date: Thu, Feb 28, 2013 5:56 pm
Attachments: Pong_Contacts_House_Leadership_and_Policy_Committee.xls (47K)

290 -

Sincerely,
Robbie Rogers
Timewarpbar.com
Infinityinternetcafe.com
Clevelandatm.com
Infinity Internet Cafe 1 Canterbury Plaza
Infinity Internet Cafe 2 Savannah Commons
Infinity Internet Cafe 3 Cherandon Plaza North Olmsted

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Danielle McIsaac" <danielle@pongmarketing.com>
Date: February 28, 2013, 5:34:27 PM EST
To: "Danielle McIsaac" <danielle@pongmarketing.com>
Cc: "Dan Jones" <djones@capitol-consulting.net>
Subject: HB7 Meeting

You can help keep our industry alive in Ohio

It's time to make your voice heard again in order to save our sweepstakes café. We ask you all to continue to make short phone calls to your state representative and urge them to regulate, not eliminate our industry. Attached to this email you will find a list of house leaders that you can contact to voice your concerns in the support of HB 7.

There will be another committee meeting for opponents testimony this Tuesday March 5th at the Statehouse in Columbus at 2pm. This will be our opportunity to speak and let the House know the negative effect banning Sweepstakes will have on Business Owners, Employees and Customers. We need your support to have our voices heard. If you, your managers, your customers or anyone else that you know would like to speak at the Statehouse please reply back to this email so we can ensure to have these names put on the list.

We ask anyone that is speaking to plan on being in Columbus by 11:30am for a quick briefing by our Legal Team and Lobbyists, we will provide an exact location by tomorrow afternoon.

Thank you for your help. We appreciate your efforts and look forward to providing you with our products for many years to come.

Thanks!

Danielle McIsaac

Pong Marketing & Promotions Inc.

201 Creditview Road

Woodbridge, Ontario L4L 9T1

T: 905 264 3555

F: 905 264 3556

Tech Support: 905 264 0592

E: danielle@pongmarketing.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete this e-mail from your system. If you are not the intended recipient you are notified that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited.

March 17, 2012

To :VS2 Software system operation and developers

VS 2 Worldwide Communications, LLC
5140 W. Hurley Pond Road
Farmingdale NJ 07727

To Customer Service and Software developers

From: customer at sweepstakes café known as Internet Paradise, Snow Road, Parma, Ohio

This is not a complaint about the Internet Paradise. The personnel there have always been professional and helpful.

This is however a complaint about the sweepstakes software in use there.

Customers are told that the sweepstakes cafes are not gambling but are just sweepstakes with the results revealed on the computer monitor.

That would mean that no matter how much you "bet" the final prize would be the same. Whether I'm betting \$1 or \$5 the final sweepstakes prize would be the same. If that is not true, then the customers are really gambling.

Incident that caused this letter: On Sunday, March 10th, I was a customer at Internet Paradise. I decided to test the promise that I was not gambling. I set the game for the max \$1.60 and played through the entire \$25.00 without one single hit. The win column went to \$0. I didn't "buy". I just played the \$1.60 until the sweepstakes entries went to \$0. I never won any prize.

If VS2 is software for sweepstakes this would not happen. This is gambling which is not what we are being told when we signup for sweepstakes experiences at the cafes in Ohio. I think there is a problem with the software being used and that the customers are really gambling.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Lapossy-Klocek
5359 Rustic Hills Drive
Medina Ohio 44256
330-725-7236

E. Lapossy-Klocek




Get Lucky at
INTERNET PARADISE

33727 Snow Road, Parma, Ohio 44130
(440) 345-5649 internetparadise@yahoo.com



ELIZABETH


★
E. Lapossy
5359 Rustic Hills Dr.
Medina, OH 44236

Customer Service

VS 2 World Wide Communications, LLC
5140 W. Harley Pond Road
Farmingdale NJ 07727

DELIVERED ON 4-10
10 MAR 2012 PM 2 A



07727160593

